

Wantage & Abingdon Circuit

CHILDREY, GROVE & WANTAGE SECTOR


The **Methodist** Church

CGW NEWS



REMEMBRANCE

NOVEMBER 2022

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keith.underhill@methodist.org.uk

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Contributions for the **next Newsletter** (December/January) should be sent to the editor by email, phone or in writing by **Sunday 20th November 2022**
e-mail : wantage.sector.newsletter@gmail.com
Tel : 01235 766655 / 07710 214601
Editors : Gill & Gordon Skidmore

Sunday Services and Church Activities

Wantage Morning Worship will be shared each week on Zoom at 10:30
(for access to this please contact Gordon Skidmore)

Texts for Services at home for each Sunday are posted on the websites.

Grove web site is found from www.wantab.org.uk

Wantage web site www.wantagemethodist.org.uk

Circuit web site www.wantab.org.uk

Circuit YouTube channel

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBpMj71hDzpMhVj6t_ZQt0w

CGW News Publication deadline dates - 2022

December/January Sunday 20th November

CGW News Publication deadline dates – 2023

February Sunday 22nd January

March Sunday 19th February

April Sunday 19th March

May Sunday 16th April

June Sunday 21st May

July/August Sunday 18th June

From the Manse.....

One of the many 'Memes' that is currently doing the rounds on social media is "I am old enough to remember when Rishi Sunak was chancellor of the exchequer!" A clear reference to the fact that as a nation we have in the guise of Jeremy Hunt, our fourth consecutive Chancellor in just over three months and a fifth in three years.

Just in case you have forgotten who's who in the midst of all the upheaval and turmoil; Sajid Javid, Rishi Sunak, Nadhim Zahawi, Kwasi Kwartang and Jeremy Hunt.

A 'Meme' is something that is rapidly shared between people and pre-dates the invention of the internet and modern technology. It is a piece of information, (a joke for example) that we seek to share with others and repeat. Social media simply enables memes to be shared almost instantaneously and further afield than ever before.

The satirical/cutting edge to the meme about chancellors is based on the fact that usually when someone says they are old enough to remember..... we expect them to be referring to something that happened a long time ago, way back in the distant past rather than just a few weeks ago.

Remembering our past is of course vitally important, for it says so much about where we have come from and who we, it reminds us that we forget our past at our peril. In the opening dialogue of the film "Fellowship of the Rings", we hear the voice of Galadriel say; "And some things that should not have been forgotten were lost. History became legend, legend became myth, and for two and a half thousand years, the Ring passed out of all knowledge."

The purpose of the book of Deuteronomy (the fifth book of the Old Testament) is to re-tell to the Israelites their story, to remind them of where they have come from and what has gone before, so that they do not forget. "Only be careful, and watch yourselves closely so that you do not forget the things your eyes have seen or let them fade from your heart as long as you live. Teach them to your children and to their children after them." (Deuteronomy 4:9 NRSVA).

The concept of teaching your children and their children, is a thread running through the book, with the imperative to pass on the eternal truths and the knowledge of all that God has done to the youngest so that they know their story.

Whenever we meet to break bread and share wine and hear the words; "Do this in remembrance of me" we remember both who and whose we are.

This month, more than any other during the year, we remember.

We remember the best that we can be as well as the worst and we remember the darkest days of war and bloodshed. We do so in order that lessons may be learned and we try not to repeat those same mistakes that take nations down that road.

We remember that Jesus calls us to be peacemakers.

With love and God Bless

Keith

There and back again!

Thursday 17th November at 7:30 pm - Wantage Methodist Church

Keith will be giving an illustrated account of his experiences of walking the Thames Path during his recent Sabbatical. This will be an opportunity to hear some of his reflections about his journey and what he learned and discovered during this time away from work. He will speak about how the Thames has such a strong attraction and resonance for him. There will also be a time for asking questions and together pondering over the importance of being a pilgrim people.

Marion Williams

A Service of Thanksgiving for Marion's life will be held at All Saints on **Saturday 5th November** at 2 pm, followed by a Reception at The Cosener's House, Abbey Close, Abingdon. Everyone is invited to attend. To help in arranging catering, it would be helpful if you could let me know if you intend to join us.

Email to williamspaul819@gmail.com, 'phone 01235 524654 or just speak to me. Thank you, Paul.

Safeguarding Training

As part of our commitment to keeping everyone as safe as possible, those who work with our children and young people as well as those who are pastoral visitors, undertake Safeguarding training and the subsequent update and refresher events.

All those who have previously taken part in Safeguarding training, will need to attend the updated foundation module, if they still hold the same posts or are involved in the same work in the life of the church.

The final opportunity for training will take place on **10th November** at Wallingford Methodist Church at 7:30 pm.

If you have any questions or queries, please would you contact either your church Safeguarding Officer

Grove – Roger Bett

Wantage – Ken Smith

Or speak to Keith

Stepping out with Noah (Edition 2)

My grateful thanks to those who joined me in October - it was good to be able to enjoy one another's company as we walked together.

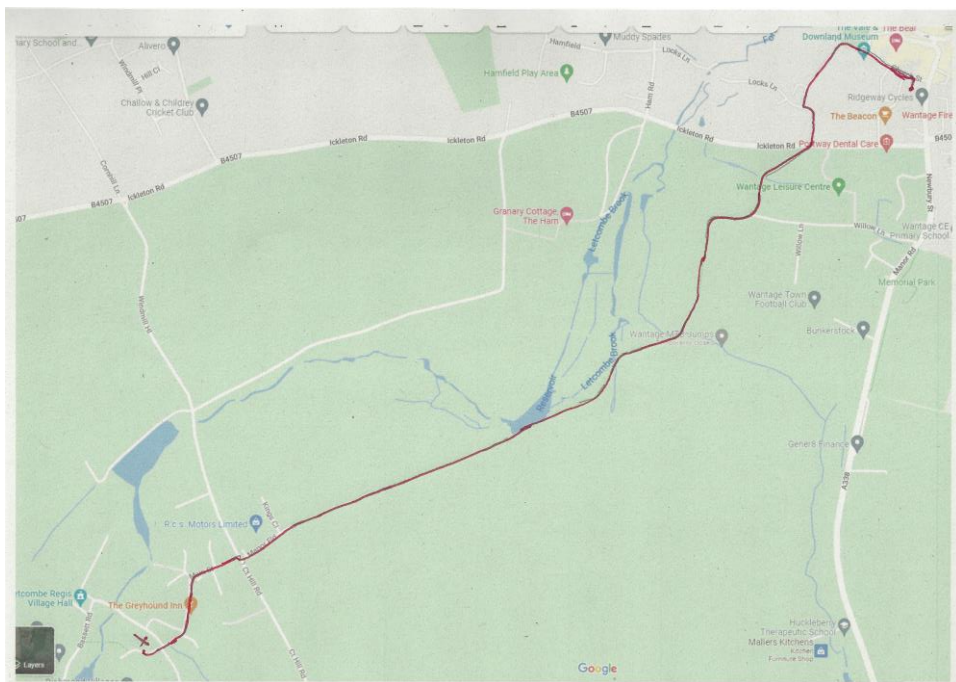
November sees S.O.W.N taking on two new walks



Please note that the walks will go ahead regardless of the weather!

Tuesday 8th November at 10:00 am. (Approx 3.5 miles)

Wantage Methodist Church to St. Andrew's Church, Letcombe Regis (& back)



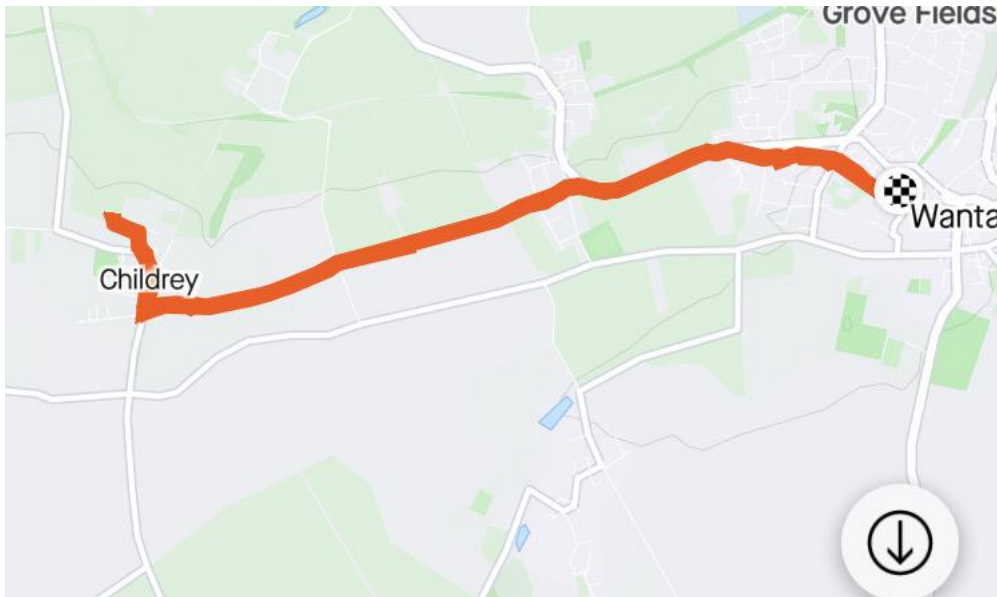
Meet in the Church Car park.
Exit car park towards Church Street
L on Church Street
L on Priory Road
Cross Ickleton Road the B4507 (carefully)
Join the footpath and follow.....

.....
.....

..... eventually joining Manor Field
At junction with Court Hill Road, cross over onto Main Street
Keep going (pass the Greyhound Inn on your LHS)
continue until junction with South Street then cross over to St. Andrew's.
Retrace route to return to Wantage Methodist Church

Thursday 24th November at 10:00 am. (Approx 6 miles)

Wantage Methodist Church to St. Mary's Childrey (& Back)



Meet in the Church Car park.

Exit car park towards Church Street

L on Church Street

where Church Street turns **L** to become Priory Road, **cross over** and down the steps towards the brook crossing the footbridge

L onto footpath

At junction with Ham Road carefully cross over into Nalderton

Keep going (pass Framland on your RHS)

Slight **R** down Grosvenor Terrace

L join footpath on A417

Take footpath to St. Nicholas CofE School

Keep going eventually coming into Childrey via Stowhill

R to duck Pond and Village Hall

Sight right into Church Row then

L to St. Mary's Church

Retrace route to return to Wantage Methodist Church

Stepping out with Noah in December

As this is a busy month, there will be just one walk in December on **Tuesday 6th December** at 10:00 am route t.b.c. Full details will be published in Stepping out with Noah edition 3

If you are interested in joining me or if you have any questions or queries, do get in touch as below.

Love and God Bless

Keith

keith.underhill@methodist.org.uk (01235) 763321 Work mobile 07565 051310

Bible Study at Elmbrook Care Home

June Grunwald

A few months ago I started a monthly bible study at Elmbrook care home in Grove Road. It is being held on the second Monday of the month at 2 pm, lasting between 30-45 mins. In October our theme was "The Woman at the Well". Joan Clipsham came with me and a new lady joined us along with a relative of another lady.

On **14th November** the group have decided they would like to have more of a service on the theme of Remembrance.

On **12th December** our session will be on Advent with a few favourite carols. Having reminisced on a few hymns in October our January session may be "Old hymns for a New Year".

If you would like to be involved in any session, please contact me. At the time of writing visitors no longer needed to take a lateral flow test.

Prayer for Ukraine

Loving God, your Son Jesus Christ, wept over Jerusalem.

Today, we weep over Ukraine.

We weep for those uprooted from their homes and lives.

We weep for those cowering in basements.

We weep for those who have witnessed death and destruction on their streets.

We weep for those separated from parents, from children, from spouses and siblings.

We are amazed at the resilience of people seeking to comfort those in need and so we pray for Governments opening up borders so that Ukrainians can have safe passage.

We pray for churches and individuals providing food, clothing and shelter.

We pray for medical workers ensuring that shattered bodies are put back together again.

We pray for ordinary Russians demonstrating and voicing their disapproval of the military actions in Ukraine.

May the Holy Spirit give us the willpower to turn our tears into action also.

May we, through our words, prayers and example pursue the things that make for a just peace in the world today and especially in Ukraine.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray.

Amen

Annual General Meeting - Having made losses through the period 2020-2022, Cornerstone has little in the way of reserves, and at the AGM on 26th September, it would only be able to trade for a further two months unless there was a significant change. Some support has been offered but it was agreed that the board needed to look at changes to the way Cornerstone works if there was to be a secure long term future.

How you can help - There are a number of ways you can help. The most important would be to use Cornerstone. Take a friend for lunch or coffee, buy cards and gifts or fairtrade groceries.

Donations are another way. An easy way to donate is :

<https://www.stewardship.org.uk/partners/20026346>

A grant has been secured to improve access by fitting an automatic opener to the front door. Donations would be helpful towards the remodelling of some of the shop.

Make and Bake for Under 5s - every Tuesday in term time from 9:30 am to 11 am. All parents and carers welcome with children to join in with a time of craft, story telling and drink. £2 per child.

Marble Jar - Any donations towards Cornerstone's marble jar would be gratefully received – they are £1.50 each or you may donate any amount. Marbles are likely to be used again this year at Christmas to bless some of those known to be living alone.

Bookshop.org - Started in 2020, Bookshop.org is an online retailer of books of all genres. It exists purely for the benefit of independent bookshops. If you order any book through bookshop.org and list Cornerstone as your preferred bookseller then Cornerstone receive a percentage of the cost.

Christmas - Advent calendars, advent candles, Christmas cards and Christmas books are now out on the shelves, there is a good selection, including some small advent calendar cards that are perfect for posting. Chocolate advent calendars have also arrived,

Second hand books - Second hand books are selling gradually but the stock is building up, so Cornerstone have stopped taking donations for now. They would like to be able to sell some online – if that is something you could help with Sarah would love to hear from you. E-mail : office@cornerstonegrove.org.uk

Christmas Meals - The Christmas Menu is now available and bookings are open – some dates are now almost fully booked so do make contact as soon as possible for your preferred date.

Prayer breakfasts at 8:30 am on the second Saturday of the month. It's good to see regular attendees at the monthly prayer breakfasts. Any one is always welcome. The next ones will be on **12th November** and **10th December**.

Wantage & Grove Street Pastors

Quiz & Curry Night

Join us for our Quiz & Curry Night on **Saturday 19th November** at Wantage Methodist Church. Put the date in your diary and get working on your team of 6 people.

Raising funds for Wantage & Grove Street Pastors! More details coming soon!

From the Joint Public Issues Calendar

16–23 October	<u>Week of Prayer for World Peace</u>
23–29 October	<u>One World Week</u>
24 October	<u>United Nations Day</u>
6 November	<u>International Day of Prayer for Persecuted Christians</u>
13 November	<u>Remembrance Sunday</u>
13–20 November	<u>Interfaith Week</u>
14–20 November	<u>Living Wage Week</u>
19 November	<u>World Toilet Day</u>
20 November	<u>World Children’s Day</u>
20 November	<u>World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims</u>
25 Nov - 10 Dec	<u>16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence</u>

Music and Poetry for Advent

7:30pm November 26th 2022
St. Michaels and All Angels, Steventon

The Crown Singers present music by
Sweelink, Ramsay, Villard
and Poulenc



Tickets £10; Concessions £8; Children £1
Tickets available on the door or by contacting 01235 762146
Refreshments will be served in the interval

WANTAGE CHORAL SOCIETY

WANTAGE SILVER BAND

MAKE WE MERRY

David Bednall

CHRISTUS NATUS EST

Cecilia McDowall

PLUS Festive favourites for choir, band & organ

(some for the audience to sing)

CONDUCTOR Paul Burke

ORGANIST Sebastian Thomson

SOPRANO Bethany Woolgrove

Saturday 10 December 2022 7:30 pm
Wantage Parish Church



All Tickets £12 Under 16 Free

Tickets available from wantagechoralsociety.co.uk

or members of WCS or on the door

Registered Charity No 265227

Childrey

For the foreseeable future Childrey will normally be open for Worship on the 2nd and 4th Sundays in the month.

13th November 10:45 am Led by **Rev Keith Underhill**

27th November 11:00 am Led by **Helen Carter**
6:00 pm at **Sparsholt: Advent Carols**

Childrey Church Meeting 14th November at 2:00 pm

Childrey Methodist Chapel Anniversary Service

Childrey Methodist Chapel held their Anniversary service on Thursday 13th October at 7 pm. We were pleased to welcome members of the Circuit, our friends from St Mary's, the village choir and music group.

Our worship was led by Childrey's minister, Keith Underhill, and his message was well received by the congregation. Afterwards we had a Chapel Tea for which Childrey is justly renowned. It was nice to meet and talk with so many of our friends after the service.

This service celebrated 173 years of Methodist worship in the village.

Birthdays At Childrey

Two attendees at Childrey celebrated their birthdays in October.

Pat Winsley and Jim Hughes are pictured cutting the cake celebrating Jim's 90th birthday. The cake was decorated in the colours of Wolverhampton Wanderers FC with edible images of players imposed on the top. Jim is an avid supporter of the club.

May you both have many more birthdays to celebrate!



Prayers

We remember in our prayers:

Vicky, Robin and Becky Legge and the Legge family grandchildren.

The Stanley family.

Keith, Joy Gee, Jean and all members and supporters of Childrey Methodist Chapel.

The congregation at St Mary's, Childrey and the people of the village.

All those unknown to us who are in need of our help and prayers.

Grove

Sunday worship in church is open for all at 10:45 am and you are invited to come and worship with us. The seating is well spaced, the windows are open, and face masks are optional.

We invite you to a **Coffee Morning on Saturday, 5th November** from 10:00 am in the Church. Handmade cards for various occasions will be on sale. Our host will be Judith Hopkins and her family. Proceeds from the morning are for Freyja's Fund, which was set up by Freyja's family so that Clic Sargent social workers at the J.R. Hospital can access money quickly and easily as needed to help children who have cancer and their families. We hope you can join us for tea/coffee, cake and a chat. We look forward to seeing you.

Tuesday Fellowship.

Tuesday, 15th November - We welcome our own minister, Keith Underhill to visit us.

Tuesday, 13th December - We look forward to a visit to Cornerstone for a Christmas meal.

Please note that in 2023 Tuesday Fellowship will meet on the last Tuesday in the month. 30th January 2023 – to be announced.

Church Council Meeting “God in love unites us”, Thursday 24th November at 7:30 pm in the Meeting Room.

We will be meeting as a Church Council to consider the implications of the 2021 Methodist Conference's decision on this issue and to see if we can come to a mind as to whether as a church we allow same sex weddings to take place on our premises. As always, this will be done sensitively in a spirit of openness and honesty. If you have any questions beforehand about this, please do speak to Keith.

All interested in the life and work of Grove Methodist Church are invited to share in this meeting.

Film Club is on **Friday, 18th November** at 7:30 pm in the Meeting Room.

We will be showing the film “**Suite Francaise**”.

Her husband away at war, a lonely Frenchwoman begins a tentative romance with the refined German soldier who has taken up residence in her mother-in-law's house,

Cast: Matthias Schoenaerts, Michelle Williams, Kristin Scott Thomas, Margot Robbie

All are welcome. The roof ventilation will be open. Masks are optional. Admission is free; a small donation helps to cover the cost of licences and DVDs.

Craft Group meets at the Cornerstone Coffee Shop on Monday afternoons from 2 pm to 4 pm. All are welcome. Bring your own craft to do and enjoy a chat and exchange of ideas with other crafters while you work. We each give a donation of £1 to Cornerstone and buy a drink of our choice.

Thank you for your support for the October Coffee Morning held in church. £248.45 was raised for Brain Cancer Research.

We continue to hold in our prayers all those who are in poor health or have other difficulties and problems compounded by the very different times we have been living through. We trust that, with care, life is opening up again for everyone.

Donation Boxes **Thank you** to everyone who continues to contribute to the Food Bank and the Ukraine Appeal through the donation boxes in our entrance hall. Your contributions are very much appreciated and do make a difference to people.

Cornerstone news – see page 8

Sunday Afternoons and Evenings at Wallingford Church

Sunday evening services on the first Sunday of the month (so that it's easy to remember) and the next is: **6th November at 6:30 pm**

Café Church is held in the hall and starts at **3:30 pm** with tea, coffee and cakes, followed by a shorter, more informal service and will take place on **4th December**.

Please attend some of these services if you can and, as importantly, please let one of the stewards know what you think of the plans.

Wantage

Kids@Church

Jane, Cath and Dave

We will meet again on **Sunday 20th November** at 9:30 am. Kids@church is an informal service for primary aged children and their families. We meet every third Sunday of the month at 9:30 am. If you would like further details please contact Cath Worth 01235 770151.

YMOSES

At the September meeting of YMOSES it was agreed that the time had now come for this aspect of our work with young people to come to its natural end. There will be a final farewell session in November with plenty of Pizza! On behalf of everyone at Church and those who have enjoyed being part of YMOSES over the years, we say a huge thank you to Jane Kent and all those who supported her for their hard work.

YMOSES leaves behind lots of great times of fun, discussions, Bible study, reflections, visits and laughter which will live long in the memory.

Pastoral

Ann Barber

June Crouch: we recorded with sadness that June died in the Churchill Hospital on Monday 10th October. She had been ill for a long time, but had bravely overcome several serious problems, and had almost completed her most recent series of chemotherapy treatments. In the early summer June's daughter Fiona, and son, Jonathan, had come to the UK from their homes in Australia and America respectively, to be with their mother as her health declined. June's Pastoral Visitor, Mary Whittaker, has shown exemplary pastoral care over many years, and facilitated her attendance at numerous hospital appointments as well as offering continuing practical support and friendship. June also shared a special, mutually supportive friendship with Graham, after each of them was widowed, and it has meant a lot to both of them over many years. It was a source of joy that June was well enough to be with Graham at his family party celebrating his 100th birthday in September.

June's funeral will take place at 12:30 pm on Monday 7th November. We offer our prayers to Fiona, Jonathan, Graham and June's grandchildren, and her friends, asking for God's love to sustain and comfort them in their bereavement.

Margaret Wilson is now out of hospital and is receiving respite care at St Katharine's. We continue to pray for her, hoping that she will continue to make progress and that she will be well enough to worship with us again soon.

Gloria Smith has recently had a short spell in the JR, but it's good to know that she is also out of hospital and back at home with her family. We wish Gloria well, and pray that she achieves a complete recovery very soon.

Jim Hughes became the latest member of our church family to become 90 recently and this special occasion was acknowledged at Community Café. We offer Jim our warmest congratulations on this milestone birthday, and belatedly wish him a very happy year ahead in his new decade.

Dave Worth's Mum died on 22nd October. She had been very ill for a long time, and the family were all with her as she passed away very peacefully. Our thoughts and

our prayers are with Dave and his father, and with Cath, Chris and Charlotte, that in their sadness they may all be strengthened by God's comforting love.

Praying for each other: In November the people listed below will be included in the prayer time at the Tuesday Bible Study Group: on Judith and Mike Skinner's list: Alison Brown, Faith & Damien Culshaw, Alex Mwange, Derek & Felicity Morton, Heather Wells and Graham Wells.

In addition to the names listed above, those in our church family, who through frailty or ill health can no longer worship with us on Sundays, will also be prayed for by name at the Bible Study Group

Prayer list

Eileen Rennie

Loving God, we come to you with hearts full of praise and thanksgiving as we live in the beautiful world you created for us to care for and love. In this beautiful autumn season with the wonderful changing colours we are reminded of how important it is that we care adequately for your planet. As the birds begin to migrate to warmer climates, help us to care and provide for those who stay behind to continue to cheer our lives with their welcome dawn chorus. Remind us also of the vulnerability of so many people as colder days approach. Where we are able, help us to care for them as you would have us do. When we ourselves become less able to provide physical care, assure us of how important our prayers still are. May we always take time to pray for others and be thankful for that privilege which you have given to each of us. Amen.

Please pray for:

Bethan Grant, Jane, Alan Bunn and family, Anne, Carol Mackinder, Emma Wright and family, Caroline, John Morton, Anne Hatto, Gordon and Marina, Jane and Brian Soffe, Catharine, Richard in York, Margaret Wilson, Adrian, Gloria, Steven Glover, Jackie, Geoff, Jean Wright and family as they mourn the loss of a much loved husband, father and grandfather. All at Bullingdon Prison, staff, prisoners and visitors, Our Ministers, Deacon, Local Preachers and Worship Leaders, YMOSES, kids@church and Street Pastors. Those members of our church family who, through frailty or ill health, can no longer worship with us.

If you or the person/people you have put on the prayer list would still like to be in the December/January Newsletter, please let me know by **Friday 18th November** in order for me to meet the Newsletter deadline.

Eileen Rennie Telephone 01235-224284, or e-mail eileenrennie@icloud.com

Tuesday Afternoon Prayer and Study Group

Eileen Rennie

We began October with Margaret Fordham telling us a most interesting story based on the autobiography of Dr John Rose, "Travellers Joy". Dr Rose was a friend of Margaret and her late husband John and it was John who took notes for this book based on his conversations with Dr Rose who by this time was blind. All John's notes were read back to Dr Rose for verification and eventually John brought the book to publication. The following week Mary Spalding gave us a fascinating talk on The Adventures of Hezekiah's Tunnel bringing real life adventures of this which Mary was party to! Please ask her about it she would love to share the story. We then started our study of The Balanced Christian Life.

We meet in the Hall at 2 pm each Tuesday. This is an open friendly group who meet to study and pray each week so please feel free to come along and join us any week. You can be assured of a warm welcome. We are still mindful of everyone's safety and vulnerability so we have the chairs spaced and make sure the space is adequately ventilated. Please be assured if you cannot meet with us that you are remembered in prayer.

Prayer is an important part of our meeting and we spend time each week praying for people and situations near and far. If you have someone or a situation you would like us to pray for please let me know.

In November we will complete our study of The Balanced Christian Life and begin our Advent Study on 22nd November. This year we are using a Cover to Cover Study, The Unexpected Jesus. During Advent season, we often sing, "Come thou long-expected Jesus...". We put up the same decorations, sing the same carols, lay out the same creche; we imagine what it was like to welcome Jesus into the world on that silent night. So peaceful. So lovely. But what if everything was not as it seems? What if Jesus actually challenged everyone's expectations of what a Messiah would be like, how he should arrive, what he would do? What if he was born in a house with a family, in a noisy bustling town and not a quiet stable? What if he was more interested in those who were outside the religious and social establishment than those who were in it? What if looking closely at the scriptures overturns our expectations of Advent and Christmas in a way that changes us forever?

Dates for November are as follows:

1st November The Balanced Christian Life Study 3: God in us.

Reading Ephesians 1:13-14 and our prayer time will include the Monthly Prayer List.

8th November The Balanced Christian Life Study 4 Love. Reading Ephesians 1:4-6.

15th November The Balanced Christian Life Study 5 But. Reading Ephesians 2:1-7

22nd November Advent Study The Unexpected Jesus Study 1

29th November Advent Study The Unexpected Jesus Study 2

If you have any queries you can contact me (Eileen Rennie) by telephone on 01235 224284 or email: eileenrennie@icloud.com

Advent Study on Thursdays

Alison Phillips

We are already beginning to see the signs of Christmas approaching in the shops, so before we get immersed in preparations for the festive season I was wondering about setting some time apart each week in Advent in order to prepare ourselves for the arrival of the most special baby, 'the light of the world'.

This year I have chosen the BRF Advent book called "Sharing the Christmas story" by Sally Welch. Sally explores two questions: What is the Christmas story really about and how do we share it?

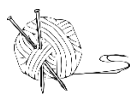
The book costs £8.99, so I am not suggesting that everyone should buy it unless you feel you would like to read the daily Bible passage and reflection, but bringing your own Bible is a good idea. Each week a different aspect of the Christmas story is examined: light, promise, mystery, love, peace and hope, and we shall explore these together with group study questions.

We will meet for four weeks beginning on **Thursday Nov 24th** from 10:00 am to 11:30 am. This year Clive and I are inviting you to meet in our home, 1 Mill Paddock, Letcombe Regis, unless numbers of the group or an outbreak of Covid make it more suitable to meet in the church hall.

It would be very helpful if you could indicate to me whether you might like to be part of this group, although I realise not everyone will be able to come every week, and let us know if lifts need to be arranged. I am looking forward to our journey through familiar and unfamiliar parts of the Bible, reading and reflecting on our Christian faith.

Knit & Chat

Carolyn Roche, 01235 764310



Thank you to all the people who have let me know how many angels they have knitted. I can now sort out how many labels we will need. Hopefully the angels will be blessed at a Sunday service in December before taking flight into Wantage.

Knit & Chat will meet on **Monday 7th November** and **Monday 21st November** at 2 pm in the Hall. The latter date is likely to be used for tying on labels and we may need to add an extra session to complete the work. Information about this will appear in the notices.

Remember that you can join our Knit & Chat Facebook group. Please let June G know if you wish to do so.

If you need wool, have any other queries or just fancy a chat do please call me.

Numbers at the café fluctuate from week to week. After much thought we decided to remain open on the day of the Queen's funeral and it was much appreciated by the 13 people who came. On other Mondays we have welcomed up to 38 people. On one Monday in October, we celebrated Jim Hughes' 90th birthday. On another morning Heather Walker (a former member, now living in St Ives) dropped in. It has been great to see some pre-Covid regulars return for the first time and to see new people drop in.

The café does not charge for coffee or home-made cakes, but each week we have "piggy banks" for donations to a charity. From September to November we will be raising money for Sudep. Sudep Action is a very local charity (based in the premises next door to church) and is dedicated to raising awareness of epilepsy risks and tackling epilepsy deaths including Sudden Unexpected Death in Epilepsy.

The cafe is open every Monday from 9 am to 12 noon. All are welcome. Our thanks to all the volunteers on the rota who make the café such a welcoming place to come to and who provide such delicious cakes. If you would like to learn more about the cafe please see June Grunwald or Eileen Rennie.



Christmas Tree Festival Wantage Methodist Church 2nd – 4th December



Hurray! Good News! We are once again holding our Christmas Tree Festival which this year will be supporting **Wantage and Grove FOOD BANK**. We shall be open from 6 pm on **Dickensian Evening, Friday 2nd December** for people to look at the trees and to enjoy refreshments and stalls in the hall.

The festivities will continue with a **Coffee Morning** on **Saturday 3rd December**, from 10 am to 12 noon and the trees will remain in place for the Sunday service.

We will be having a stall in the hall selling cakes, biscuits and handmade Christmas gifts/goodies. Please let Eileen or myself know if you would be able to contribute something for this. Many thanks in advance for your support. Looking forward to seeing you all that weekend.

Carolyn Roche

The Mix recycling opportunities

There will be a box in the chapel for the collection of empty medication blister packs, writing implements that no longer work and printer ink cartridges. These will be taken to The Mix as and when there is a reasonable amount to take.

Crisp packets and biscuit wrappers can be taken to Sainsbury's for recycling.

Reverse Advent Calendar

An idea widely shared on Facebook that is worth considering?

The original suggests donating on Christmas Eve. Although this is a nice idea, it's too late for the Foodbanks, so maybe do it during November?



- December 1 - box of cereal
- December 2 - peanut butter
- December 3 - stuffing mix
- December 4 - boxed potatoes
- December 5 - macaroni and cheese
- December 6 - canned fruit
- December 7 - canned tomatoes
- December 8 - canned tuna
- December 9 - dessert mix
- December 10 - jar of applesauce
- December 11 - canned sweet potatoes
- December 12 - cranberry sauce
- December 13 - canned beans
- December 14 - box of crackers
- December 15 - package of rice
- December 16 - package of oatmeal
- December 17 - package pasta
- December 18 - spaghetti sauce
- December 19 - chicken noodle soup
- December 20 - tomato soup
- December 21 - can corn
- December 22 - can mixed vegetables
- December 23 - can carrots
- December 24 - can green beans

Peace Poppies

Helen Carter

I have once again acquired white peace poppies that some of us wear alongside our red poppies. The peace poppies have been around since 1933 but are still not nearly as well known about as the red poppies. I wear both poppies as it is important to acknowledge the huge sacrifice made by those who have died during the all too many conflicts, but I believe it is also equally as important to work for peace in any way we can. The poppies have a fixed cost of £1. I would be very happy to supply one to anyone who would like one. (PS: the phone number in the newest church directory is incorrect - you need to swap over the 8 and the 4 within the given number!!)

Energy Watch

After my note to you all in last month's newsletter, I thought it would be salutary to report on what has actually happened so far in October. In the first 23 days of October we used about 345 units of electricity and so our bill will be roughly £350. At last year's prices this would have been about £70. Of the total usage about half is "overhead" and the rest is activity related. We still do not understand what relief there may be as a result of Government action, but it is good discipline to be aware of our headline charge.

Please will everyone using the premises ensure that the hot water heaters are not started until they are needed and switched off as soon as they cease to be necessary and that all lights are off before you leave the building.

As we start to need heating, there is going to be a real tension regarding heating and ventilation through the winter. We shall be bringing to Church Council in November, suggestions about how we proceed through the next months.

What is happening on the premises at present?

Sunday	9:30 am 10:30 am	Kids@Church Morning Worship	Monthly on the 3 rd Sunday In person and on Zoom	Weekly
Monday	Morning Afternoon	Drop-in Café Knit & Chat	in the Hall in the Hall	Weekly 1 st & 3 rd Week each month
Tuesday	Afternoon	Tuesday Prayer and Study Group	in the Hall	Weekly
Friday	Afternoon	Caritas Choirs		Weekly

Users

All in the Hall

Monday	Evening	Slimming World		
Tuesday	Morning Evening Evening	MIND My Life, My Choice (Parlour) Wantage Camera Club		
Wednesday	Evening	Wantage Stage Musical		
Thursday	Midday	KAWI		3 rd week each month
Friday	Morning	Mothers & Toddlers		
Saturday	Morning	Dads Out		1 st week each month

Specials

October 29 th	Afternoon	Wantage Sings Band Call	Hall
November 6 th	Afternoon	Wantage Sings	Hall
November 7 th	Lunch	Funeral	Chapel
November 12 th	Aft/Eve	Down2Earth	Hall
November 13 th	Afternoon	Wantage Sings	Hall
November 15 th	Evening	Newbury Street Patient Participant Group	Chapel
November 17 th	Evening	KU Sabbatical Presentation	tbd
November 19 th	Evening	Street Pastors Curry & Quiz	Hall
November 23 rd	Evening	Church Street Patient Participant Group	Chapel
November 26 th	Evening	Wantage Community Church	Hall

DIARY for NOVEMBER

NOVEMBER

Saturday 5 th	10:00 am	Coffee Morning at Grove	p13
Monday 7 th	2:00 pm	Knit & Chat at Wantage	p18
Tuesday 8 th	10:00 am	Stepping out with Noah	p5
Thursday 10 th	7:30 pm	Safeguarding Training at Wallingford	p4
Sunday 13 th		Remembrance Sunday – note changed service times	p24
Monday, 14 th	2:00 pm	Bible Study at Elmbrook Care Home	p7
	2:00 pm	Childrey Church Meeting	
Tuesday 15 th	2:15 pm	Grove Tuesday Fellowship	p13
Wednesday 16 th	7:30 pm	Wantage Church Council	
Thursday 17 th	7:30 pm	There and back again! at Wantage	p4
Friday 18 th	7:30 pm	Film Club - Grove “ Suite Francaise ”.	p13
Saturday 19 th	7:30 pm	W&G Street Pastors Quiz & Curry Night	p11
		Wantage Methodist Church Hall	
Sunday 20 th	9:30 am	Kids@Church at Wantage	p16

DEADLINE for DECEMBER/JANUARY NEWSLETTER

Monday 21 st	2:00 pm	Knit & Chat at Wantage	p18
Thursday 24 th	10:00 am	Stepping out with Noah	p6
	10:00 am	Advent Study Group at Letcombe	p18
	7:30 pm	Grove Church Council – God in Love Unites Us	p13

DECEMBER

Christmas Tree Festival : Wantage Methodist Church 2nd – 4th December

Friday 2 nd	6:00 pm	Dickensian Evening	p19
Saturday 3 rd	10:00 am	Coffee Morning	
Wednesday 7 th	7:30 pm?	Wantage Mayor’s Carols at Wantage Parish Church	

SERVICES during NOVEMBER

NOVEMBER

Sunday 6th Ordinary 32

10:30 am Wantage (shared on Zoom) Rev Keith Underhill & Street Pastors
10:45 am Grove Helen Carter

Sunday 13th Ordinary 33 Remembrance

9:30 am Wantage (shared on Zoom) Rev Keith Underhill
This service will include the sacrament of Holy Communion
10:45 am Grove Ian Sturt
10:45 am Childrey Rev Keith Underhill
This service will include the sacrament of Holy Communion

Sunday 20th Sunday before Advent – Violence against Women

9:30 am Wantage Kids@Church
10:30 am Wantage (shared on Zoom) Andrew Dixon
10:45 am Grove Rev Keith Underhill
This service will include the sacrament of Holy Communion

Sunday 27th Advent

10:30 am Wantage (shared on Zoom) Libby Bolton
10:45 am Grove Tabitha Griffiths
11:00 am Childrey Helen Carter
6:00 pm Sparsholt Advent Carols